Notice of the Final Oral Examination
for the Degree of Master of Science

of

KAITLYN WERNER
BA (University of Rochester, 2013)

“Parenting Style and the Promotion of Intrinsic and Extrinsic Goals”

Department of Psychology

Monday April 20, 2015
9:30 A.M.
Cornett Building
A228

Supervisory Committee:
Dr. Frederick Grouzet, Department of Psychology, University of Victoria (Supervisor)
Dr. Ulrich Muller, Department of Psychology, UVic (Member)

External Examiner:
Dr. E. Anne Marshall, Department of Education, Psychology and Leadership Studies, UVic

Chair of Oral Examination:
Dr. Richard van Oort, Department of English, UVic

Dr. David Capson, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies
Abstract

According to the dual valuing process model (Grouzet, 2013), the social context can either facilitate the natural human tendency to pursue intrinsic goals, or thwart it by promoting extrinsic goals. Congruent with this idea, research in self-determination theory (Deci & Ryan, 2000) suggests that parental autonomy support (PAS) is associated with the development of intrinsic goals, whereas more controlling parenting styles, such as conditional regard (PCR), are expected to facilitate extrinsic goals. Results from two preliminary studies suggest that mothers tended to use PAS to promote goals that were more intrinsic, as well as facilitated autonomous internalization of the goal, whereas PCR was associated with more extrinsic goals. In the current study, we sought to extend these findings by including a general measure of perceived parenting style, as well as asking participants to recall a goal that was promoted during adolescence (i.e., 13-16 years). Results from this study indicate no difference in the type of goal that was promoted or the way in which it was internalized when mothers used either autonomy support or conditional regard, over and above general parenting style. Results will be further discussed in with respect to the parenting and the dual valuing process model.